



# CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 09, 2026 at 6:30 PM

City Council Chambers | 202 N. Virginia Street, Port Lavaca TX 77979

## MINUTES

STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF CALHOUN §  
CITY OF PORT LAVACA §

On this the 9th day of March 2026, the City Council of the City of Port Lavaca, Texas, convened in a regular session at 6:30 p.m. at the regular meeting place in Council Chambers at City Hall, 202 North Virginia Street, Port Lavaca, Texas, with the following members in attendance:

### I. ROLL CALL

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Jack Whitlow       | Mayor                                   |
| Daniel Aguirre     | Councilman, District 1                  |
| Tim Dent           | Councilman, District 2                  |
| Vacant Seat        | Council Member, District 3              |
| Rosie G. Padron    | Councilwoman, District 4, Mayor Pro Tem |
| Rose Bland-Stewart | Councilwoman, District 5                |
| Justin Burke       | Councilman, District 6                  |

And with the following absent:

None

Constituting a quorum for the transaction of business, at which time the following business was transacted:

### II. CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Whitlow called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and presided.

### III. INVOCATION

- Former Councilman Jim Ward, District 5, gave the invocation.

### IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Mayor Whitlow – Pledge of Allegiance.

### V. PRESENTATION(S) BY THE MAYOR (None)

**VI. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - *Limited to 3 minutes per individual unless permission to speak longer is received in advance. You may make public comments as you would at a meeting on Zoom by logging on with your computer and/or smart phone as described in the zoom invitation below or on Facebook Live through the comment section, which will be monitored and answered. As appropriate.*

- Mayor asked for comments from the public and the following citizens spoke:
  - Luis De La Garza, Blackstone, Congregated Living Facility & Fees Ordinances
  - Dolores Quintanilla, 610 N. Randle St., concerns of Water Bill costs, Drainage, Sewer and Garbage pickup
  - Russell Cain, promoted Interim City Manager Weaver and Police Chief Rangnow
  - Pat Petrisky, 871 Bauer Rd, promoted efforts on Drainage & Streets Improvements
  - Jim Ward, promoted Interim City Manager Weaver and Police Chief Rangnow
  - Felicia Harrell, promoted Interim City Manager Weaver and Police Chief Rangnow

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA** - *Council will consider/discuss the following items and take any action deemed necessary*

- A. Minutes of February 09, 2026 Regular Meeting**
- B. Minutes of February 23, 2026 Special Meeting and Workshop Session**
- C. Review of Credit Card Statement**
- D. Receive Monthly Financial Highlight Report**
- E. Receive Employee Training Review Acknowledgment report ending 02.28.2026**
- F. Receive Office of Court Administrators (OCA) Monthly report ending 02.28.2026**
- G. Receive Victoria Economic Development Corporation (VEDC) Monthly Report**

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves all consent agenda items as listed.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

**VIII. ACTION ITEMS** - (Council will consider/discuss the following items and take any action deemed necessary)

1. **Consider Resolution No. R-030926-1 of the City of Port Lavaca authorizing publication of a Notice of Intention to Issue Combination Tax and Surplus Revenue Certificates of Obligation for the Lynn’s Bayou Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion project, which project is identified as Texas Water Development Board Project No. 73963. Presenter is Jody Weaver**

Interim City Manager Weaver reminded Council that the Texas Water Development Board approved a Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan in the amount of \$39.15M to fund an expansion of our Wastewater Treatment Plant from 2.0 MGD to 4.0 MGD. The deadline to close the CO's is May 31, 2026. In order to proceed with this loan opportunity, Council must authorize publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to issue the Certificates of Obligation (C/O) at least 45 days prior to the date tentatively set for passage of the ordinance authorizing the issuance of such certificates of obligation. This date is set for the regular meeting on May 11, 2026, in order to meet the May 31st closing date deadline.

On May 27, 2025, Council authorized the publication of a NOI to issue CO's for this project, however the ordinance to authorize the issuance of the COs was not voted on because staff received an extension from the TWDB on the loan offer to May 31, 2026. This extension was approved to provide us with additional time to establish a tighter cost estimate based upon 90% complete construction plans and for TCEQ to consider a waiver to the requirement to begin construction at this time.

To briefly review background information: the Wastewater discharge between November 2020 and April 2022 exceeded 90% of the permitted flow and triggered the requirement of 30TAC Chapter 305.126 (a), which basically requires that 1) once you exceed 75% capacity for 3 months in a row you must begin engineering and 2) once you exceed 90% capacity for 3 months in a row, you must begin construction. As has been discussed previously, these exceedances occurred for 18 consecutive months in 2020, 2021 and 2022, during periods of COVID and Formosa's plant expansion.

We are currently back to normal flows hovering at or below 75% capacity. Because we did trigger this engineering requirement (75%) during 2020-2022, Council authorized engaging AECOM to prepare the design of an expansion to the WWTP. The 30% complete design resulted in an estimated cost of \$39.15M. Council authorized completion of the design to 90% in order to tighten up the construction estimate. As of the present time, we have a "shelf-ready expansion project" and the engineering construction estimate as of September 2025 is \$36.5M construction cost, which unfortunately is not significantly less than the original estimated cost. It is projected that the construction cost will increase each year around 5%. So, the cost in 5 years could be around \$50M.

Last year, understanding the significant burden this will cause on our current rate payers, staff appealed to TCEQ for a waiver to the requirement to begin construction at this time since 1) we have a shelf-ready project and 2) we have not had 3 consecutive months above 75% in quite a while. Last fall, the person assigned this request in TCEQ enforcement division did recommend approval of our request to begin construction on an expansion until we are closer to the 90% trigger. We were told to expect this written approval in February, but we still have not received it.

As discussed at the recent Council workshop, it is anticipated that there may be more stringent requirements for the QUALITY of the wastewater discharge in the new permit which will become effective later this year. Construction components needed to address these increased treatment parameters, as well as improvements needed to meet current requirements, are included in the expansion project. If we do not proceed with the expansion project, then consideration must be given to these improvements needed to meet the discharge quality requirements (apart from flow quantity).

Authorization to publish the Notice of Intent tonight, does not commit Council to the loan, but keeps all of our options open. The vote to decide whether to move forward with the loan commitment will be taken on May 11, 2026.

Between now and then, we hope to have written approval from TCEQ regarding the requirement to construct, a response from TWDB regarding a possible reduced scope project, and options for sewer rate increases to generate revenue to pay the debt service.

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Port Lavaca, Texas (the "City Council") deems it advisable to give notice of intention to issue combination tax and surplus revenue certificates of obligation of said City, as hereinafter provided; and

WHEREAS, it is officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Resolution has been considered and acted upon was open to the public and public notice of the time, place and subject of said meeting was given, all as required by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

Section 1. FORM OF NOTICE. Attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A" is a form of Notice of Intention to Issue Combination Tax and Surplus Revenue Certificates of Obligation, the form and substance of which are hereby adopted and approved.

Section 2. PUBLICATION OF NOTICE. Said Notice shall be published, in substantially the form attached hereto, in a newspaper, as defined in Subchapter C of Chapter 2051, Texas Government Code, of general circulation in said City once a week for two consecutive weeks, the date of the first publication thereof to be at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date tentatively set for passage of the ordinance authorizing the issuance of such certificates.

Section 3. POSTING OF NOTICE ON WEBSITE. Further, said Notice shall be posted in substantially the form attached hereto continuously on the City's website for at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date tentatively set for passage of the ordinance authorizing the issuance of such certificates.

Seconded by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 2. **Consider request from the Texas Gulf Coast Press Association and the South Texas Press Association for use of the Nautical Landings Meeting Room and Deck on April 16, 2026, and Lighthouse Beach Pavilion on April 17, 2026, in conjunction with their joint convention, including consideration of a waiver of facility rental fees with the exception of required alcohol-related permit fees. Presenter is Tania French**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that she had received a request from Schelly Bartels, Publisher of The Port Lavaca Wave and Board Member of the Texas Gulf Coast Press Association, regarding use of city facilities for the upcoming Texas Gulf Coast Press Association and South Texas Press Association Joint Convention scheduled for April 16 to April 18, 2026.

This marks the first time in history that these two longstanding non-profit organizations - TGCPA (88 years) and STPA (100 years) - will host their joint convention in Port Lavaca. The event will bring newspaper publishers, editors, and media leaders from across Texas into our community for multiple days.

From an events and tourism perspective, this convention presents:

- Direct economic impact through hotel stays, dining, and local shopping;
- Valuable statewide exposure for Port Lavaca;
- An opportunity to showcase Lighthouse Beach, Nautical Landings, and our waterfront amenities;
- Long-term relationship building with media leaders who influence community coverage in Texas.

The requested use of the Nautical Landings Meeting Room and Deck (April 16, 2026) and Lighthouse Beach Pavilion (April 17, 2026) aligns well with our goal of promoting Port Lavaca as a welcoming destination for meetings and conventions. I believe hosting this group at these venues will leave a positive and lasting impression and further position Port Lavaca as a premier coastal gathering location.

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request from the Texas Gulf Coast Press Association and the South Texas Press Association for use of the Nautical Landings Meeting Room and Deck on April 16, 2026, and Lighthouse Beach Pavilion on April 17, 2026, in conjunction with their joint convention, including consideration of a waiver of facility rental fees with the exception of required alcohol-related permit fees.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

3. **Consider request from Snappy Company to allow a vehicle inside the Bauer Community Center for event use, and provide direction regarding facility guidelines, safety requirements, and insurance provisions. Presenter is Tania French**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that the City has received a request from Snappy Company, owned by Jake and Mackenzie Garrett, 2405 E. Loma Vista, Victoria, Texas, seeking permission to bring a van into the Bauer Community Center as part of a mobile photo booth setup for private events. Jake Garrett was in attendance and addressed Council on this request.

I met with the owners to discuss the request and measure access points within the facility. The van measures 58 inches at its widest point. The narrowest door opening at the Bauer is 64 inches (rear entrance), and the widest opening is 66 inches (chamber-side entrance). While the vehicle would technically fit through both openings, clearance would be minimal.

Background:

Prior to Hurricane Harvey, the rear of the Bauer Community Center included a roll-up door. During post-Harvey renovations, the roll-up door was removed after city leadership at the time determined the building was not designed to accommodate vehicles.

Concerns:

I have discussed this request with Wayne Shaffer and Joe Reyes. Collectively, we have identified the following concerns:

- 1) The Bauer does not have an adequate ventilation system to safely exhaust vehicle fumes.
- 2) The building does not have a sprinkler system.
- 3) Clearance at the widest entrance would be minimal, creating potential for damage to door frames or the structure.
- 4) The vehicle would need to travel across tile flooring to enter the facility, which could result in floor damage.
- 5) There is potential for both property damage and personal injury.

Comparison to other facilities:

The City of Victoria does allow vehicles inside the Victoria Community Center; however, the building is better suited for such use. The Victoria Fire Marshal requires the following precautions:

- Plywood or other hard, absorbent material placed beneath the vehicle to protect flooring and absorb potential oil or fuel leaks.
- Battery cables disconnected from the battery.
- Fuel door taped shut if the fuel cap does not lock.
- Lessee shall not store any motor fuel in the Community Center.
- Fuel tanks, boats, vehicles, or equipment on display will be secured in accordance with instructions by the Fire Marshal.

Rental Impact:

While the inclusion of a vehicle inside the building would be unique, it is not anticipated to increase rentals. In January and February, the Bauer was fully booked on weekends. Currently, only two weekends remain available between now and end of year (August 15 and October 31). Staff believes the same novelty could be achieved by positioning the van near the entrance of the Bauer, rather than inside the facility.

Policy Considerations:

The City does not currently have established rules or guidelines regarding vehicles inside the Bauer Community Center. Therefore, staff is seeking Council direction on the following:

- 1) Does Council wish to allow vehicles inside the Bauer Community Center?
- 2) If allowed, what guidelines and insurance requirements should be established?

Should Council choose to permit vehicles inside the building, staff recommends adopting, at minimum, the City of Victoria Fire Marshal's guidelines listed above. In addition, we recommend requiring general liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000.00 to protect the City against loss from liability imposed by law for bodily injury and/or property damage.

Such insurance should name the City of Port Lavaca, its officers, employees, agents, and, if required, any other public entity involved in the event, as additional insured by separate endorsement for the duration of the event. We respectfully request Council's guidance and direction on this matter.

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request from Snappy Company to allow a vehicle inside the Bauer Community Center for event use, and provide direction regarding facility guidelines, safety requirements, and insurance provisions, to be developed and administered by Interim City Manager.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

4. **Consider request from Cowboy Fellowship of Port Lavaca for use of the pavilion at Bayfront Peninsula Park for the annual Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 05, 2026, and consideration of a waiver of all associated pavilion rental fees. Presenter is Tania French**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that on behalf of Cowboy Fellowship of Port Lavaca, I am requesting the use of the pavilion at Bayfront Peninsula Park for the church's annual Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 5, 2026. This annual event is open to the entire community, providing an opportunity for fellowship and worship.

Cowboy Fellowship of Port Lavaca respectfully requests a waiver of any fees associated with the use of the pavilion.

Motion made by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request from Cowboy Fellowship of Port Lavaca for use of the pavilion at Bayfront Peninsula Park for the annual Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 05, 2026, and consideration of a waiver of all associated pavilion rental fees.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

5. **Consider request from American Legion Post 167 for use of the Veteran’s Memorial and large pavilion at Bayfront Peninsula Park on Monday, May 25, 2026, for the Memorial Day and Flag Retirement Ceremony, including waiver of all associated fees.**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that American Legion Post 167, has expressed their desire to once again host the annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Flag Retirement Ceremony. The event is scheduled for Monday, May 25, 2026, in observance of Memorial Day. The ceremony will honor the men and women who gave their lives in service to our country and will provide the community an opportunity to respectfully retire unserviceable American flags in accordance with proper protocol. While final event details are still being coordinated, the plan would include use of the Veteran’s Memorial and the large pavilion at Bayfront Peninsula Park.

American Legion Post 167 respectfully requests use of these park facilities and a waiver of any associated rental or usage fees to support this community-wide observance. Recommendation is for approval of American Legion Post 167’s request for use of Bayfront Peninsula Park, including the Veteran’s Memorial and large pavilion, and waiver of all related fees for the Memorial Day and Flag Retirement Ceremony on May 25, 2026.

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request from American Legion Post 167 for use of the Veteran’s Memorial and large pavilion at Bayfront Peninsula Park on Monday, May 25, 2026, for the Memorial Day and Flag Retirement Ceremony, including waiver of all associated fees.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

6. **Consider request to approve overnight use of Bayfront Peninsula Park on Friday, June 19, 2026 and Saturday, June 20, 2026 in conjunction with Juneteenth celebration activities. Presenter is Tania French**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that the Juneteenth activities are scheduled for June 19, 2026 to June 21, 2026. As part of the celebration, we are requesting approval for overnight use of Bayfront Peninsula Park on Friday and Saturday nights to allow families and visitors to barbecue, fellowship, and participate in outdoor games in a safe and designated public space.

Juneteenth is a nationally recognized holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and serves as an opportunity for community gathering, reflection, and celebration. As in the past few years, allowing overnight park use during this designated weekend will support cultural observance and community engagement.

Request is for approval to permit overnight use of Bayfront Peninsula Park on:

- Friday            June 19, 2026
- Saturday        June 20, 2026

The extended hours would allow attendees to remain in the park overnight for barbecuing and recreational activities associated with the Juneteenth celebration.

Public Safety & Coordination:

Event organizers will coordinate with local law enforcement and city staff to ensure:

- Compliance with park regulations
- Appropriate waste disposal
- Overnight security will be secured.
- Respect for park facilities and surrounding areas

Motion made by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request to approve overnight use of Bayfront Peninsula Park on Friday, June 19, 2026 and Saturday, June 20, 2026 in conjunction with Juneteenth celebration activities.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

7.     **Consider request to approve the Juneteenth procession route, on Saturday, June 20, 2026 beginning at 10:00 a.m., starting at City Hall, traveling Virginia Street to Main Street, and proceeding to the Bayfront; authorize traffic control assistance; and approve waiver of applicable city fees associated with the event. Presenter is Tania French**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that as part of the Juneteenth celebration scheduled for June 19–21, organizers are planning a community processional event to promote unity, reflection, and celebration.

The parade is scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2026 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The proposed route will:

- Begin at City Hall
- Travel down Virginia Street
- Turn left onto Main Street
- Proceed along Main Street to the Bayfront

The procession will primarily consist of pedestrians and golf carts, with a limited number of vehicles participating.

Organizers respectfully request:

- 1) Approval of the proposed route for the Juneteenth procession.
- 2) Traffic control assistance from the City to ensure participant and public safety along the route.
- 3) Waiver of applicable city fees associated with traffic control and any required permits in support of the Juneteenth celebration.

Motion made by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request to approve the Juneteenth procession route, on Saturday, June 20, 2026 beginning at 10:00 a.m., starting at City Hall, traveling Virginia Street to Main Street, and proceeding to the Bayfront; authorize traffic control assistance; and approve waiver of applicable city fees associated with the event.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

8. **Consider a request to temporarily close Colorado Street between Main Street and Live Oak Street from 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Friday, June 19, 2026 for a Juneteenth After-hours Community Event hosted by Kenny Banks. Presenter is Tania French**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that as part of the Juneteenth celebration weekend scheduled for June 19–21, an after-hours community event is being planned for Friday, June 19, hosted by Kenny Banks. This event will serve as a secondary private event that is open to the community.

Request is for approval for the temporary closure of Colorado Street between Main Street and Live Oak Street from 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Friday, June 19, 2026.

Security & Safety

- Security for the event will be provided by Kenny Banks.
- Kenny Banks will coordinate with city events coordinator and law enforcement as necessary.
- Emergency vehicle access will be maintained at all times.

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request to temporarily close Colorado Street between Main Street and Live Oak Street from 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Friday, June 19, 2026 for a Juneteenth After-hours Community Event hosted by Kenny Banks.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

**9. Consider a request from United Way for use of Bayfront Peninsula Park, including both pavilions, for the Family Fun Day event scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026, and consideration of a waiver of all associated park rental fees. Presenter is Tania French**

Events Coordinator Tania French advised Council that United Way is planning its Family Fun Day for Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026. As in year’s past the group requests use of Bayfront Peninsula Park for activities and games including both pavilions. The event is open to the public and community members are welcome to participate in the activities. This does not impact other use of the park. United Way requests waiver of fees for use of the park and pavilions.

Motion made by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves request from United Way for use of Bayfront Peninsula Park, including both pavilions, for the Family Fun Day event scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026, and consideration of a waiver of all associated park rental fees.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

**10. Consider proposal from LSPS Solutions for Mapping Wastewater Collection System Infrastructure. Presenter is Wayne Shaffer**

Public Works Director Shaffer advised Council that to reduce inflow and infiltration issues the city is facing, the Utility department has been undergoing an Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) program to identify areas with defective or deteriorated sanitary sewer collection appurtenances in order to schedule necessary repairs, with the goal of reducing I&I. To date, Smoke Testing investigations have been completed as follows:

- 2023 - Ann Street Sub-basin;
- 2024 - FM 1090, Hillside Terrace, Alamo Heights and Vela sub-basins;
- 2025 - Main Lift Station basin.

Last year, Undine, LLC provided their engineer, Doug Hearn, P.E., as a resource to review lift station flows and rainfall data from our system and provide his insights and recommendations at no cost to the City. In a June 2025 report, Mr. Hearn identified the primary sub-basins of interest as Alamo Heights, Ann Street, Brookhollow, and Loop 1090, all of which have been included in one of these smoke testing inspections. Our next proposed action of our I&I strategy is to map all manholes in the collection system and inspect each (831) for deterioration and leaks. This will be a citywide project that also completes our sewer collection system mapping.

We reached out to Doug Heam last week to ask whether he agreed that investing \$133K to conduct an inventory and inspection of all our manholes was a worthwhile expense as a next step item in our I&I program strategy, or whether he thought there was something else that should come first. He replied that "inventorying and inspecting all of the manholes should be a high priority. The graphs in the lift station report show the direct correlation to high runtimes (flow) .and rain events. Locating manholes that are submerged during this major rain events will help find the major sources of inflow. What you are describing is a big step forward in this process."

**Financial Implications:**

Failing to continue this program could cause areas with high inflow and infiltration to overburden our lift stations and collection system, leading to sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) permit violations, and potential TCEQ enforcement actions. Below is a record of our expenses associated with l&i inspection over the past few fiscal years. As you can see, due in part to delays in invoicing, we have not been consistent in spending our annual budgeted funds.

Staff is working to catch up and work more closely with our consultants to ensure timely invoices. With the significant impact of Inflow and Infiltration to our collection system, we are requesting a budget amendment to add \$130,000 so we can issue the Purchase Order (PO) for this manhole work now and not have to wait until the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year.

Fiscal Year	Budget Amount	PO Amount	Actual Cost	Invoice Date	Notes
2021-2022	\$75,000	\$60,930.50	\$0	N/A	PO encumbered; no expenditures
2022-2023	\$75,000	-	\$56,018	11/16/2022	2023 - Ann Street Sub-Basin
2023-2024	\$75,000	-	\$0	N/A	No activity
2024-2025	\$75,000	\$63,800.00	\$57,420	6/18/2025	2024 - FM 1090, Hillside Terrace, Alamo Heights and Vela Sub-basins
2025-2026	\$90,000	\$87,065.00	\$87,065	1/29/2026	2025 - Main Lift Station

Through proper maintenance and repair, the sanitary sewer system will continue to provide services that improve the quality of life for our citizens. Staff recommends approving this budget amendment to move forward with option 2 of the proposal from LSPS Solutions, amounting to \$132,960.00.

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves proposal from LSPS Solutions for Mapping Wastewater Collection System Infrastructure in the amount of \$132,960.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all instruments necessary to affect such agreement.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

11. **Consider the electrical power issues at the Lynn Haven Lift station. Presenter is Wayne Shaffer**

Public Works Director Shaffer and Ms. Dee Strause, AEP Representative from the Victoria Regional Office, addressed Council on this issue.

No action necessary and none taken.

12. **Consider award of Administration Services Agreement for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Local Community Program Grant Application. Presenter is Jody Weaver**

Interim City Manager Weaver advised Council that the City of Port Lavaca is considering submitting one or more grant application(s) to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) under the 2024 Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Local Community Program (LCP). These funds are intended to support eligible activities related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, infrastructure restoration, and economic revitalization resulting from the 2024 Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding (DR-4781) and Hurricane Beryl (DR-4798).

In preparation for these potential applications, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure qualified Grant Administration services in accordance with applicable state and federal procurement requirements. The City received two (2) responsive proposals for Grant Administration services:

- Grantworks, Inc.
- KSBR, LLC

Proposals were reviewed and evaluated by a Scoring Committee comprised of the following: Grants and CIP Coordinator Kateryna Thomas, Interim Finance Director Reyann Grimaldo, Interim City Manager Jody Weaver and Councilwoman Rose Bland-Stewart. Scores were provided based on criteria outlined in the RFP, including but not limited to experience with CDBG-DR programs, capacity to administer federally funded disaster recovery grants, project approach, past performance, and cost. A summary of evaluation scores is provided in the attached Score Summary.

The Scoring Committee has reviewed the proposals and evaluation results and recommends that City Council consider awarding a Grant Administration Services contract to KSBR, LLC, receiving the highest overall score, as reflected in the attached Score Summary, to assist the City with preparation and submission of CDBG-DR LCP application(s) and, if awarded, administration and implementation of one or more grant contracts.

There is no immediate financial impact to the City at this time. Grant Administration costs are anticipated to be an eligible expense reimbursable through the CDBG-DR program, subject to grant award and GLO approval.

Motion made by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby authorizes award of Administration Services Agreement for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Local Community Program Grant Application, to KSBR, LLC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all instruments necessary to affect such agreement.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

13. **Consider approval of a list of qualified engineers in the category of Drainage or Streets and Drainage, for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Local Community Program Grant Application, in response to the RFQ #02-11-2026-E, as recommended by the scoring committee. Presenter is Jody Weaver**

Interim City Manager Weaver advised Council that the City of Port Lavaca is considering submitting one or more grant applications to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) under the 2024 Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Local Community Program (LCP). These funds are intended to support eligible activities related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, infrastructure restoration, and economic revitalization resulting from the 2024 Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding (DR-4781) and Hurricane Beryl (DR-4798).

In preparation for potential grant submissions, the City issued RFQ #02-11-2026-E to procure qualified engineering firms capable of providing professional services related to Drainage or Streets & Drainage projects, in compliance with all applicable state and federal procurement requirements.

The City received six (6) responsive proposals for Engineering Qualification Proposals:

- Coast & Harbor Engineering
- AECOM
- CivilCorp
- TLC Engineering
- Urban Engineering
- Meta Engineering

Proposals were reviewed and evaluated by a Scoring Committee of the following: Interim City Manager Jody Weaver, Director of Public Works Wayne Shaffer, Councilman Justin Burke and Councilman Daniel Aguirre.

The Scoring Committee reviewed and evaluated all responsive proposals in accordance with the criteria outlined in the RFQ. Proposals were assessed based on, but not limited to, the following factors:

- Firm qualifications and experience with drainage and street infrastructure projects;
- Experience with federally and state-funded projects, including CDBG-DR;
- Experience in project construction management;
- Past performance and references;
- Capacity to perform work within required timeframes.

Staff is recommending to initially qualify engineering firms based on an overall average score of 80 or higher, AND an average experience score of 50 or higher in the Drainage or Street and Drainage category. Based on the evaluation and scoring results, the Scoring Committee recommends approval of Civil Corp, LLC and Urban Engineering as qualified engineering firms in the category of Drainage or Street and Drainage.

Approval of this qualified list will allow the City to efficiently engage engineering services, as needed, for future project development and grant application support related to the GLO 2024 CDBG-DR Local Community Program (LCP) and other eligible infrastructure projects.

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with the approval of the list of qualified engineering firms. Any future expenditure related to engineering services will be subject to City Council approval and will be contingent upon grant awards or other authorized funding sources.

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of the Scoring Committee, Council hereby approves Civil Corp, LLC and Urban Engineering as qualified engineering firms in the category of Drainage or Streets and Drainage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all instruments necessary to affect such agreement.

Seconded by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

14. **Consider Resolution No. R-030926-2 of the City of Port Lavaca declaring April 2026 as Fair Housing Month. Presenter is Jody Weaver**

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

WHEREAS Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, for fair housing in the United States; and

WHEREAS The principle of Fair Housing is not only national law and national policy, but a fundamental human concept and entitlement for all Americans; and

WHEREAS The National Fair Housing Law, during the month of April, provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, WE, do proclaim April as Fair Housing Month in City of Port Lavaca and do hereby urge all the citizens of this locality to become aware of and support the Fair Housing law.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 15. **Consider Resolution No. R-030926-3 of the City of Port Lavaca suspending the April 18, 2026 effective date of the proposal by CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., D/B/A CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas – South Texas Division to Implement Interim Grip Rate Adjustments for Gas Utility Investment in 2026 and requiring delivery of this resolution to the Company and Legal Counsel. Presenter is Anne Marie Odefey**

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

WHEREAS, the City of Port Lavaca, Texas (“City”) is a gas utility customer of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas – Houston, Texas Coast, South Texas, and Beaumont/East Texas geographic rate areas (CenterPoint or Company) and is a regulatory authority with an interest in the rates and charges of CenterPoint; and

WHEREAS, CenterPoint made filings with the City and the Railroad Commission of Texas (“Railroad Commission”) on February 17, 2026, proposing to implement interim rate adjustments (“GRIP Rate Increases”) pursuant to Texas Utilities Code § 104.301 on all customers served by CenterPoint, effective April 18, 2026; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the City, as a regulatory authority, to examine the GRIP Rate Increases to determine its compliance with the Texas Utilities Code.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS, THAT:

- 1) The April 18, 2026 effective date of the GRIP Rate Increases proposed by CenterPoint is hereby suspended for the maximum period allowed by Texas Utilities Code § 104.301(a) to permit adequate time to review the proposed increases, analyze all necessary information, and take appropriate action related to the proposed increases.
- 2) A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to CenterPoint, care of Keith L. Wall at 1111 Louisiana Street, CNP Tower 19th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002, and to Thomas Brocato, legal counsel to the City, at Lloyd Gosselink, 816 Congress Ave., Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

16. **Consider Resolution No. R-030926-4 of the City of Port Lavaca Texas, for Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) for a Highway Safety Improvement Program Off-System from the Texas Department of Transportation with the City of Port Lavaca. Presenter is Jody Weaver**

Motion made by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Code, Section 201.103 established that the State shall design, construct and operate a system of highways in cooperation with local governments, and Section 222.052 authorized the Texas Transportation Commission to accept contributions from political subdivisions for development and construction of public roads and the state highway system within the political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, federal and state laws require local governments to meet certain contract standards relating to the management and administration of State and federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Commission has codified 43 TAC, Rules 15.50-15.56 that describe federal, state, and local responsibilities for cost participation in highway improvement and other transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Commission passed Minute Order Number 116752 authorizing the State to undertake and complete a highway improvement or other transportation project generally described as Installing sidewalks, curb ramps and pedestrian crossings; and

WHEREAS, the City of Port Lavaca commits to provide the local participation match. The local participation match is comprised of cash or State Transportation Development Credits; and

WHEREAS, the City of Port Lavaca is responsible for all non-reimbursable costs and 100% of overruns, if any; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Port Lavaca desires to reaffirm its support of the Project, approve and authorize the execution of an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) with TxDOT for the Project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS, THAT:

THAT, the Mayor is authorized to enter into an AFA with TxDOT for this Project.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

17. **Consider Resolution No. R-030926-5E of the City of Port Lavaca to appoint Election Judges for the City of Port Lavaca General Officers Election held on the uniform date of May 02, 2026. Presenter is Mandy Grant**

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

WHEREAS, in accordance with the City Charter of the City of Port Lavaca, the Texas Election Code and other applicable state and federal laws, the City Council of the City of Port Lavaca, Texas hereby has the authority to appoint the Election Officers for city elections.

WHEREAS, in addition, that the general officers’ election has been ordered for Saturday, May 02, 2026 by Resolution No. R-011226-1E adopted on January 12, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. THAT, in accordance with the Texas Election Code, a presiding judge and an alternate presiding judge must be appointed for each election precinct [EC §32.001(a)]. The role of the alternate judge is to serve as presiding judge for an election if the presiding judge cannot serve [EC §32.001(b)]. In an election conducted by the presiding judge, the alternate judge serves as one of the election clerks [EC §32.032].

SECTION 2. THAT, such election shall be conducted by the City of Port Lavaca, with Early Voting Days, Extended Hours for Early Voting day on a Saturday and the main Election Day voting to be at the following polling places designated for each City election district and the following citizens, registered to vote in the city, are hereby appointed Election Officers to conduct said election:

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| All Polling Places: | City of Port Lavaca<br>City Hall - Main Lobby<br>202 N. Virginia Street<br>Port Lavaca, Texas 77979 |
|---------------------|---|

Augustin Rojas, Jr.	Presiding Judge
Janie Delgado	Alternate Judge
Michael Moehler	Presiding Judge for the Early Voting Ballot Board and the Central Counting Station
Mary Lou Tharling	Alternate Judge for the Early Voting Ballot Board and the Central Counting Station

SECTION 3 THAT, the Office of the City Secretary of the City of Port Lavaca shall consist of the City Secretary and/or the Assistant City Secretary and shall perform all duties necessary to conduct the general officers' election.

SECTION 4. THAT, the Office of the City Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to provide a copy of the RESOLUTION to the judges as written notice of their appointment as required the Texas Election Code [EC §32.009].

If either the Presiding Judge or the Alternate Presiding Judge is unable to perform his/her assigned duties, the Office of the City Secretary is authorized to select an Acting Presiding or Acting Alternate Presiding Judge from the qualified Election Clerks, as needed.

SECTION 5. THAT, the Presiding Judge shall have the authority to appoint two (2) clerks to assist in the holding of such election. Said election officers shall also serve as the Early Voting Ballot Board (EVBB) for such election. The Central Counting Station will be in the City Hall Conference Room.

SECTION 6. THAT, the Election Judge(s) shall be compensated at an hourly rate of \$15.00; early voting clerks and election clerks shall be compensated at an hourly rate of \$14.00 as provided by the State Election Code [EC §32.091(a)].

SECTION 7. THAT, the City Secretary is hereby appointed the Elections Clerk for early voting; and the Assistant City Secretary is hereby appointed the Deputy Election Clerk for early voting in accordance with Section 83.001 *et seq.* of the Texas Election Code. The place for early voting days and election day is hereby designated as the City of Port Lavaca, City Hall - Main Lobby, 202 N. Virginia Street, Port Lavaca, Texas.

SECTION 8. THAT, the Mayor is authorized to sign Writ of Election to the Presiding Judge.

SECTION 9. THAT, this resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 18. **Consider Lease Agreement with Calhoun County for use of Electronic Voting Equipment for the City of Port Lavaca General Officers Election held on the uniform date of May 02, 2026. Presenter is Mandy Grant**

City Secretary Grant advised Council that Election Laws require that electronic voting devices be made available to voters. Costs related to these services include expenses related to eight (8) days of early voting and also for voting on Election Day for a total of nine (9) days. The lease proposal for the use of Calhoun County’s Electronic Voting Equipment in connection with the May 02, 2026 City of Port Lavaca General Elections would be approximately \$698.25 and this amount has been budgeted for this fiscal year. Staff recommends Council approve this agreement.

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves Lease Agreement with Calhoun County for use of Electronic Voting Equipment for the City of Port Lavaca General Officers Election held on the uniform date of May 02, 2026, in the amount of \$698.25.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all instruments necessary to affect such agreement.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 19. **Consider Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance (S-1-26) of the City of Port Lavaca approving a Project and Financing Plan for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) Number One, City of Port Lavaca, Texas; making various findings related to such plan; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. Presenter is Jody Weaver**

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves Second and Final reading of an Ordinance (S-1-26) of the City of Port Lavaca; approving a project and financing plan for tax increment reinvestment zone number one, City of Port Lavaca, Texas; making various findings related to such plan; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.

Seconded by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 20. **Consider First Reading of an Ordinance (S-2-26) of the City of Port Lavaca for amendment(s) to the Base Ordinance S-4-25 for 2025-2026 fiscal year budget; providing for Budget Amendment(s); providing for severability, providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date. Presenter is Revann Grimaldo**

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves First reading of an Ordinance (S-2-26) of the City of Port Lavaca for amendment(s) to the Base Ordinance S-4-25 for 2025-2026 fiscal year budget; providing for Budget Amendment(s); providing for severability, providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 21. **Consider First reading of an Ordinance (G-2-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the basic Traffic Control Devices Ordinance G-6-86, Section 3, by adding traffic control signs in Original Townsite Subdivision, District One (1); providing for severability; providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date. Presenter is Colin Rangnow**

Motion made by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves First reading of an Ordinance (G-2-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the basic Traffic Control Devices Ordinance G-6-86, Section 3, by adding traffic control signs in Original Townsite Subdivision, District One (1); providing for severability; providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 22. **Consider First Reading of an Ordinance (G-3-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the Ordinance codified and described in the City of Port Lavaca’s Code of Ordinances as Part II, Chapter 8 Amusement and Entertainments, Section 8-22 Location and number of machines allowed within city limits;**

**providing for purpose of ordinance, providing for severability; providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date. Presenter is Derrick Smith**

Motion made by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves First reading of an Ordinance (G-3-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the Ordinance codified and described in the City of Port Lavaca’s Code of Ordinances as Part II, Chapter 8 Amusement and Entertainments, Section 8-22 Location and number of machines allowed within city limits; providing for purpose of ordinance, providing for severability; providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Nay:

Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

- 23. **Consider First Reading of an Ordinance (G-4-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the Ordinance codified and described in the City of Port Lavaca’s Code of Ordinances as Part II, Chapter 12 Buildings and Building Regulations by adding new Article VII, Congregate Living Facility; providing for purpose of ordinance, providing for severability; providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date. Presenter is Derrick Smith**

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves First reading of an Ordinance (G-4-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the Ordinance codified and described in the City of Port Lavaca’s Code of Ordinances as Part II, Chapter 12 Buildings and Building Regulations by adding new Article VII, Congregate Living Facility; providing for purpose of ordinance, providing for severability; providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date.

Seconded by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Nay:

Councilman District 6 Burke

- 24. **Consider First Reading of an Ordinance (G-5-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the Code of Ordinances, Appendix A - Fees, Rates and Changes; Chapter 12 Buildings and Building Regulations, Article VII, Congregate Living Facility; and providing an effective date. Presenter is Derrick Smith**

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with the recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves First reading of an Ordinance (G-5-26) of the City of Port Lavaca amending the Code of Ordinances, Appendix A - Fees, Rates and Changes; Chapter 12 Buildings and Building Regulations, Article VII, Congregate Living Facility; and providing an effective date, contingent on omitting the Permit Fees and Reinspection Fees.

Seconded by Councilman District 2 Dent

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Nay:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

- 25. **Consider request of The Harbor Children’s Alliance and Victim Center for closure of streets adjacent to 215 W. Railroad Street for the annual hosting of “Celebrate the Child Picnic” on Saturday, March 28, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The streets to be closed are N. Benavides from the rear of the library driveway to W. Railroad and W. Railroad from N. Benavides to N. Ann St. Presenter is Colin Rangnow**

Police Chief Rangnow presented Council a letter from The Harbor with the following information:

The month of April has been designated Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month in the United States. The goal is to raise public awareness about child abuse and neglect and to educate communities and individuals on how to help keep our children safe. In observance of Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month, The Harbor Children's Alliance & Victim Center will be hosting our Annual *Celebrate the Child* Picnic on Saturday, March 28, 2026 at The Harbor, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is an event that has been designed to bring awareness to ending child abuse and neglect, but also to celebrate the children and remind them of how special they are.

Since April is designated as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month, we will begin the event by reading a Proclamation and blowing bubbles in honor of the 114 children that received services at our center last year.

Local agencies such as the Police Department, Fire Department, EMS, Sheriff's Office, and DPS will attend and have tables set up to give parents information on keeping their children safe and it allows the children to interact with them to know that they are "trusted adults" that can help them if they find themselves in a dangerous situation. We will also have other social service organizations on site to let parents know about the resources that are available here in town as well as food and games.

We are asking the City to allow us to close the intersections so that we can take advantage of the space we have and still keep our children safe from harm. We will begin setting up at The Harbor at 8:00 a.m. so are asking for the streets to be closed from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Motion made by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with recommendation of staff, Council hereby approves request of The Harbor Children's Alliance and Victim Center for closure of streets adjacent to 215 W. Railroad Street for the annual hosting of "Celebrate the Child" Picnic on Saturday, March 28, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The streets to be closed are N. Benavides from the rear of the library driveway to W. Railroad and W. Railroad from N. Benavides to N. Ann Street.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

26. **Consider recommendation of Planning Board for a variance to the front building setback line to allow for a carport, Property ID 18459, the legal description is Block 3 of the Lana Park Mobile Home Addition (800 Elm Street). Presenter is Derrick Smith**

Development Services Director Smith advised Council the property owner started work on the proposed carport in October of 2025 without a permit or an approved variance. After staff issued a "Stop Work" order, work did cease. However, the owner failed to obtain the necessary permits. During the second weekend of February, the owner started work on the carport again. On February 17, 2026, staff met with owner at the property and explained the proper process the owner would need to comply with to construct the carport. The attached application for the variance was completed that day. The carport is proposed to be constructed up to the property line. The current front setback line is 15 feet. The applicants dwelling meets this requirement.

Motion made by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with recommendation of Planning Board and staff, Council hereby approves a variance to the front building setback line to allow for a carport, Property ID 18459, the legal description is Block 3 of the Lana Park Mobile Home Addition (800 Elm Street).

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

- 27. **Consider recommendation of Planning Board for an ice and water vending machine to be located on the corner of Benavides St. and Austin St., Property ID 17399. The legal description is Lot 5 & 6 of Block 44 of the Original Townsite (405 S. Benavides Street). Presenter is Derrick Smith**

Development Services Director Smith advised Council the applicant is proposing to construct an ice and water vending machine to be located at 405 S. Benavides Street. The driveway and off-street parking will provide parking for a minimum of four vehicles. The applicant is also working with staff to comply with our landscape ordinance.

Motion made by Councilman District 1 Aguirre

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, in accordance with recommendation of Planning Board and staff, Council hereby approves an ice and water vending machine to be located on the corner of Benavides St. and Austin St., Property ID 17399. The legal description is Lot 5 & 6 of Block 44 of the Original Townsite (405 S. Benavides Street).

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

Mayor Whitlow announced that Council would go into Recess at 9:20 p.m.

Mayor Whitlow announced Council was back in Session at 9:32 p.m.

- 28. **Announcement by Mayor that City Council will retire into closed session:**
  - **For consultation with City Attorney on matters in which the duty of the Attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Open Meetings Act (Title 5, Chapter 551,-Section 551.071(2) of the Texas Government Code).**

- **To discuss personnel matters in accordance with Title 5, Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code (to discuss appointment, employment, evaluation, responsibilities and duties, reassignment, discipline or dismissal of an officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee [Interim City Manager]).**

Mayor Whitlow announced that Council would retire into closed session at 9:32 p.m.

29. **Return to Open Session and take any action deemed necessary with regard to matters in closed session. Presenter is Mayor Whitlow**

Mayor Whitlow announced that Council was back in open session at 10:42 p.m.

Motion made by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approves a salary increase of two percent (2%) merit pay to Interim City Manager Jody Weaver, effective March 10, 2026.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor asked for motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

Meeting adjourned at 10:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Whitlow, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mandy Grant, City Secretary